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SENATE FISH AND GAME

EXHIBIT NO. 1

DATE 2/8/11

FILE NO SB 255

Convention Center • Prairie Rose Restaurant • Sagebrush Lounge & Casino • RV Park

2/7/11

FWP Committee  
Montana Senate  
Helena, Montana 59230

Dear FWP Committee Chair and Members:

Please Support SB 255. This bill is necessary to establish criteria for decisions implemented by FWP. The consideration of economic impact to Montana taxpayers is of vital importance. As a small business owner in Northeast Montana, I have directly felt the negative business impact of decisions made by FWP, even after attending public hearings where those implications were addressed, and ultimately ignored!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Stone".

Betty Stone, owner/manager  
Cottonwood Inn  
Glasgow, Montana

*GS Oil, Inc.*

PO Box 149  
Roy, Montana 5947  
Phone (406) 464-2221  
Fax (406) 464-2223  
[gsoil@midrivers.com](mailto:gsoil@midrivers.com)

February 7, 2011

Senate FWP Committee

Dear Committee Members:

*I am a small business owner in Central Montana. My name is Gary C. Smith. I have three stations in the communities of Roy, Grass Range and Winnett. The main part of our business is fuel and tires. Hunters and sportsmen are a tremendous part of the business. During the archery season the amount of business generated by the out of area hunters was one of the main things that would carry us through the slow times of January, February and March. Last year they dropped a pile of archery tags. We noticed a significant drop in our business at ALL three locations. We hear that they are going to drop any 10% - 20% more of the tags next year. That will probably be the last nail in our coffin!*

Sincerely,



Gary C. Smith  
President / Owner

**2009 ECONOMIC IMPACT as a RESULT of ARCHERY ELK PERMIT REDUCTIONS for the MISSOURI RIVER  
BREAKS HUNTING DISTRICTS**

| Hunting Districts  | Total loss of resident hunting opportunities* | Economic loss to local areas due to lost resident hunting** | Total loss of NR hunting opportunities*                           | Economic loss to local areas due to lost non-resident hunting** | FWP Estimated % of Population Objective |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 410-15   | 0   | 0   | 346   | \$ 987,599  | At                                      |
| 620-15   | 247   | \$171,719   | 581   | \$1,658,367   | Over                                    |
| 798-15   | 0   | 0   | 44  | \$ 125,591  | Over                                    |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>247</b>                                    | <b>\$171,719</b>  | <b>971</b>  | <b>\$2,771,557</b>  |   |
| <b>Total lost resident-NR hunting opportunities for 2009</b> | <b>1,218</b>                                  |   | <b>Total Economic loss to Missouri River Breaks Area for 2009</b> | <b>\$2,943,276</b>  |   |

\*Assumes that all unsuccessful applicants would have hunted if they had drawn permits.

\*\*Used FWP estimates of resident & nonresident days afield and money spent per day.

**2010 ECONOMIC IMPACT as a RESULT of ARCHERY ELK PERMIT REDUCTIONS for the MISSOURI RIVER  
BREAKS HUNTING DISTRICTS & 22 HUNTING DISTRICTS**

| Hunting Districts | Total Loss of Resident Hunting Opportunities*                      | Economic Loss to Local Areas Due to Lost Resident Hunting Opportunities** | Total Loss of Nonresident Hunting Opportunities*              | Economic Loss to Local Areas Due to the Loss of Nonresident Hunting Opportunities** | FWP Est. % of Population Objective |
|-------------------|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Breaks HDs</b> |  |   |   |   |                                    |
| 410-15            | 384  | \$270,204   | 546   | \$1,558,465   | At                                 |
| 620-15            | 282  | \$198,431   | 475   | \$1,355,808   | Over                               |
| 798-15            | 121  | \$85,142  | 371   | \$1,058,957   | Over                               |
| <b>22 HDs</b>     |  |   |   |   |                                    |
| 401-15            | 15   | \$10,555  | 0   | \$0   | At                                 |
| 411-15            | 152  | \$106,956   | 151   | \$436,249   | Over                               |
| 420-15            | 311  | \$218,837   | 50  | \$144,453   | At                                 |
| 500-15            | 16   | \$11,258  | 4   | \$11,556  | At                                 |
| 502-15            | 83   | \$58,403  | 6   | \$17,334  | Over                               |
| 580-15            | 27   | \$18,999  | 8   | \$23,113  | Over                               |
| 590-15            | 0  | \$0   | 78  | \$225,347   | Over                               |
| 799-15            | 129  | \$90,772  | 180   | \$520,032   | Over                               |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>1,520</b>   | <b>\$1,069,557</b>  | <b>1,869</b>  | <b>\$5,351,314</b>  |                                    |
|                   |  |   |   |   |                                    |
|                   | <b>Total Loss of Hunting Opportunities Resident-NR 2010</b>        | <b>3,389</b>  | <b>Total Economic Loss to Both Areas for Resident-NR 2010</b> | <b>\$6,420,871</b>  |                                    |
|                   | <b>Total Loss of Hunter Opportunities Resident-NR for 2009 -10</b> | <b>4,607</b>  | <b>Total Economic Loss to All HD's for 2009-10</b>            | <b>\$9,364,147.</b>   |                                    |

\*Assumes that all unsuccessful applicants would have hunted if they had drawn permits.

\*\*Used FWP estimates of resident & nonresident days afield and money spent per day.